

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact:
Nichole Hollis 404.849.4517 Mobile
Or Annalysce Baker 470.891.2992 Mobile

Georgia Safe Routes to School... **New Sidewalks Increases Safety for Hundreds of South Fulton Students**

ATLANTA – Bethune Elementary School students, staff, and Georgia Department of Transportation representatives will host a ribbon cutting ceremony to debut a newly constructed crosswalk and sidewalk. The ceremony will take place at **8 a.m. on Wednesday, November 4 at Bethune Elementary School, 5925 Old Carriage Drive Atlanta, GA 30349.**

The Georgia Safe Routes to School Program project costs over \$450 thousand to design and build. It consists of new sidewalks on both sides of Old Carriage Drive; sidewalks on Carriage Lane from Ocean Valley Road to Guilford Lane; and sidewalks on both sides of Ocean Valley Road. The project also included installing “School Zone” signage, striping, and lighting.

“We hope the new sidewalks and school-zone signs will increase safety for the students at Bethune Elementary School,” said Katelyn Digioia, Georgia DOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Engineer. “We also hope the improvements will encourage more students and their parents to walk to school.”

Georgia Safe Routes to School is a free program offered by Georgia Department of Transportation providing incentives, materials, and resources as well as safety education. It is federally funded with dedicated safety funding.

For additional local information about the ribbon cutting, please contact School Outreach Coordinator, Nichole Hollis, at (404) 849-4517.

About the Georgia Safe Routes to School Resource Center

Established in August 2009, the Resource Center partners with elementary and middle schools to create school-based SRTS programs aimed at encouraging children to walk and bike to school safely. The Resource Center offers a partnership program for schools interested in creating a local Safe Routes to School program. School Outreach Coordinators offer program support and guidance to Partner schools. School-based Safe Routes to School program activities are centered on Education, Engineering, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation. For more information, visit www.SafeRoutesGA.org or call 1.877.436.8927.

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